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# THE HALTON COMPASS




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## REGIONAL NEWS, NOTES AND NEIGHBOURS



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# Digging into the Flamborough Quarry proposal

BY JENNIFER ENRIGHT

Within the next few weeks, the City of Hamilton plans to hire an aggregate planning advisor to examine a controversial quarry application that involves 238 acres in Flamborough.

Stan Holiday, a senior planner with the City of Hamilton's planning and economic development department says the advisor will fulfill an important role as the city examines the large-scale project. The project proposed by Lowndes Holdings Corp. involves 380 acres of land by Milborough Line and the 11th Concession, but only 238 acres of the property is intended for use as an aggregate quarry.

"We don't deal with a lot of these kinds of applications. We need someone who is used to handling these (kinds of applications) to assist the city in its review (of the application). The aggregate planning advisor will assist staff to make sure that they will look at everything."

Mr. Holiday stressed that this is only the beginning of what he anticipates will be a long drawn out process that will involve many public consultations as a lead up to the public hearing on the proposal. "We will be talking about this next year."

Since June when Lowndes Holdings Corp. first announced its plans to extract high-grade amabel dolostone limestone from the site, there has been opposition to the project, mainly from a

group called Friends of Rural Communities and the Environment (FORCE). Lowndes Holdings Corp. hopes to develop what will be the eighth largest quarry, and one of the top five largest limestone quarries in Canada, on its property in Flamborough.

Members of FORCE, who have been working to stop the application since June, have expressed concerns about the closeness of the project to three residential developments, the potential impact on the water table, and the amount of truck traffic the quarry is expected to generate. Mr. Flint says his members were "flabbergasted" that the site "directly intersects the flow of water... We are very worried about the water. There is an aquifer (on the property) that feeds Carlisle wells."

Increased activity on local roads has also been a major concern for FORCE. David Lowndes, who hopes to develop the site, says based on a 200-day working year, there will be

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**A CHANGE IN FLAMBOROUGH'S OFFICIAL PLAN IS REQUIRED.**

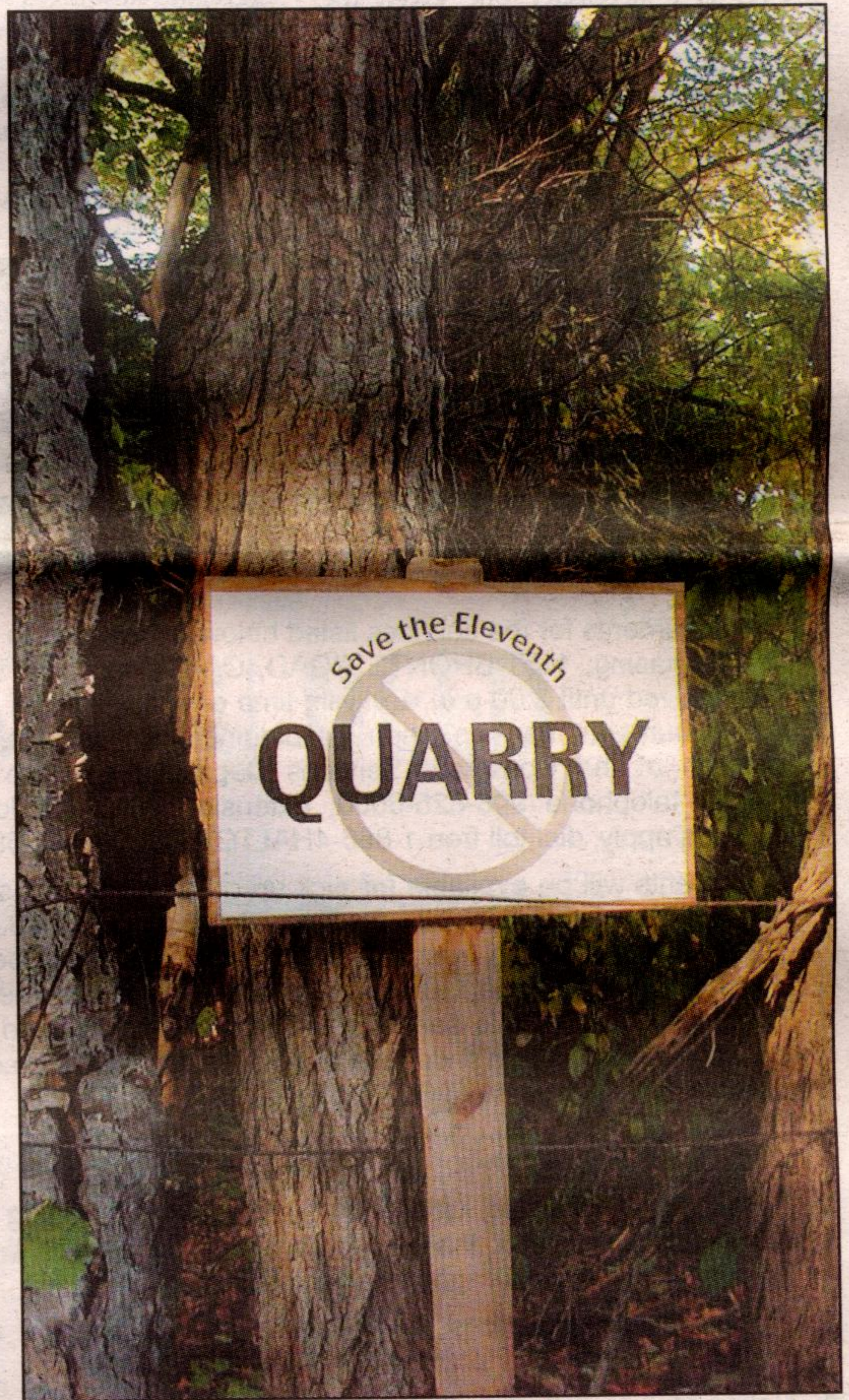


PHOTO BY JENNIFER ENRIGHT

Last week, the City of Hamilton distributed a letter about the application to local residents living within 120 metres of the proposed quarry site. The developer, Lowndes Holdings Corp., hopes to extract limestone from the site by 11th Concession and Milborough Line.

## It's worth the drive to Acton... as long as you don't want to park

BY BREN CHISHOLM

Acton is the perfect little place to search for unique gifts, antiques or clothing. Most notably, Acton is known as Leathertown, home of the largest and most popular leather store in Canada, namely, The olde Hide House. People come from all around. Remember the catch phrase, "It's Worth the Drive to Acton"?

A leisurely drive through its main strip is proof that there's much to be said for small town living.

Just recently, though, a change has taken place in the downtown parking situation that is affecting core businesses and the people who frequent them.

Tom Drewlo, Manager of Public Works, Town of Halton Hills, explained the business rationale.

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